

58568. MUSA sp. Musaceæ.

From Manila, Philippine Islands. Seeds presented by Adm. Hernandez, director, Bureau of Agriculture. Received November 22, 1923. Numbered January, 1924.

Introduced in response to a request for edible bananas producing viable seeds.

58569. TETRASTIGMA HARMANDI Planch. Vitaceæ.

From Manila, Philippine Islands. Seeds presented by P. J. Wester, Bureau of Agriculture. Received January 21, 1924.

Ayó. An attractive, perennial evergreen vine of vigorous growth, with palmately 5-foliolate, shining dark-green leaves. The fruits are produced in small bunches like grapes and are of about the same size as a small Concord grape and of a dull-brown color. The flesh is semitranslucent, subacid, juicy, and of fair flavor. It is eaten by the Filipinos and could doubtless be used for making jelly and preserves. The plant makes a splendid climbing ornamental and is commonly so used in Manila. (See Plate XXIX, Philippine Agricultural Review, vol. XIV, No. 3, 1921.) (*Wester.*)

58570. HIBISCUS SABDARIFFA L. Malvaceæ. Roselle.

From Kingston, Jamaica. Seeds presented by W. S. Goodman, acting superintendent, Hope Gardens. Received March 20, 1924.

The roselle or, as it is sometimes called, Jamaica sorrel is widely cultivated in the Tropics of both hemispheres for the sake of the fleshy red calyces, which, when cooked, make an excellent jelly or sauce with a flavor resembling that of the cranberry. The juice pressed from the calyces makes a pleasant acid beverage. The plant is a vigorous annual 3 to 7 feet high and grows best in hot, dry climates.

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 51268.

58571. PHLEUM PRATENSE L. Poaceæ. Timothy.

From Glasnevin, Dublin, Ireland. Seeds presented by the director, Royal Botanic Gardens. Received March 20, 1924.

Locally grown seeds introduced for timothy-breeding tests.

58572. EHRHARTA ERECTA Lam. (*E. panicca* Smith.). Poaceæ.

From South Yarra, Victoria. Seeds presented by William Laidlaw, government botanist, National Herbarium of Victoria. Received January 5, 1924.

Panic Veldt grass. This was first introduced into Victoria in 1910 from South Africa, where it is native. It is a biennial or short-lived perennial and appears to be naturally adapted to regions having mild winters, where it springs up after the autumn rains and grows through the winter, maturing in early summer. It is not particular as to soil and seems to do best in partial shade, growing in places too dark for most grasses. It produces an abundance of foliage. (*Laidlaw.*)

58573. TIGRIDIA PAVONIA (L. f.) Ker. Iridaceæ.

From Casa Alvarado, Coyoacan, Mexico. Seeds presented by Mrs. Zelia Nuttall. Received January 5, 1924.

Although this species, like the dahlia, is looked upon as a food plant in some quarters, it will in all probability be more often employed as an ornamental in the United States. Its beautiful, delicate flowers with their unique and peculiar markings, make it an object of great interest in the garden, especially since it is so seldom seen in this country. Although the flowers last but a short while, there

is a succession in a mass planting of them which prolongs the display of yellow, orange, scarlet, and various combinations of reds as satisfactorily as many more durable species.

The tiger flower is adapted to the same situation in the garden as the gladiolus, is similarly handled, and is as easily grown. The species deserves much more extensive culture than it is receiving. It can be treated like the gladiolus in cold climates, but it thrives best when planting or transplanting of the stocks takes place in the fall; in other words, where there is no danger of the corms being injured by low winter temperatures. (*David Griffiths, Bureau of Plant Industry.*)

58574. KOKIA DRYNARIOIDES (Secm.) Lewton. Malvaceæ.

From Honolulu, Hawaii. Fruits presented by C. S. Judd, superintendent of forestry. Received January 4, 1924.

So far as I know, there is now only one tree of this species in existence. It is growing at Kauluawai and was raised from seeds obtained from the last wild tree at Mahana, now dead, discovered and described by J. F. Rock. (*Judd.*)

An ornamental tree with long-stemmed, heart-shaped leaves and red, silky flowers, native to the Hawaiian Islands, but now become practically extinct because of the ravages of cattle, sheep, and goats, which eat the leaves and bark. (Adapted from *Rock, Indigenous Trees of the Hawaiian Islands, p. 307.*)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 50624.

58575 to 58581. TRITICUM AESTIVUM L. (*T. vulgare* Vill.). Poaceæ. Common wheat.

From Bologna, Italy. Seeds sent by Dr. Pellegrini, University of Bologna, at the request of B. C. Stakman, University Farm, St. Paul, Minn. Received January 4, 1924.

A collection of Italian wheat strains which are said to be resistant to all rusts in Italy, according to C. E. Leighty, of the Bureau of Plant Industry. These have been obtained for the use of cereal breeders.

58575. (C. I. No. 7359.) Beardless, red, smooth.

58576. (C. I. No. 7340.) Beardless, red, rough.

58577. (C. I. No. 7341.) Beardless, white, smooth.

58578. (C. I. No. 7342.) Beardless, white, rough.

58579. (C. I. No. 7343.) Bearded, red, rough.

58580. (C. I. No. 7344.) Bearded, white, smooth

58581. (C. I. No. 7345.) Bearded, red, smooth.

58582. PACHIRA INSIGNIS (Swartz) Sav. Bombacaceæ.

From Kingston, Jamaica. Seeds presented by W. S. Goodman, acting superintendent, Hope Gardens. Received January 11, 1924.

A beautiful tropical tree, native to the West Indies and northern South America, which becomes about 30 feet tall, with a trunk up to a foot in diameter. The flowers, about a foot wide, are of extraordinary beauty with their crimson petals and white stamens, and a delightful perfume is given off by them. The fruit is a very large woody capsule which contains numerous edible seeds; these are of the size, appearance, and taste of chestnuts.

58583. MOMORDICA COCHINBINENSIS (Lour.) Spreng. Cucurbitaceæ.

From Santiago de las Vegas, Cuba. Seeds collected at the agricultural experiment station, Santiago de las Vegas, and presented by C. V. Piper, Bureau of Plant Industry. Received January 11, 1924.